

Message Text

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ACTION ACDA-12

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 ACDE-00 DOE-15 SOE-02
NRC-05 SMS-01 SAS-02 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01
INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15
ICA-11 OES-09 DOEE-00 /125 W
-----067474 211844Z /46

P 211808Z AUG 78
FM USMISSION GENEVA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3377
INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 GENEVA 12727

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PARM, CCD, UR, US
SUBJECT: US-USSR CHEMICAL WEAPONS NEGOTIATIONS, ROUND
EIGHT; FIRST PLENARY MEETING

CW MESSAGE NO. 5

1. SUMMARY: FIRST PLENARY MEETING OF ROUND EIGHT WAS HELD FRIDAY, AUGUST 18, 1978. USDEL HEAD SAID THAT THE TWO MAJOR TASKS WERE TO TRY TO RESOLVE REMAINING ISSUES AND TO RESUME DRAFTING OF LANGUAGE FOR A JOINT INITIATIVE. HE OUTLINED US PROPOSALS FOR INFORMATION EXCHANGE ON CHEMICAL PROTECTIVE ACTIVITIES AND FOR CONTINUED US-USSR COOPERATION UP TO THE TIME A CONVENTION COMES INTO FORCE AND AFTERWARDS AS WELL. SOVIET DEL HEAD MADE A BRIEF, NON-SUBSTANTIVE STATEMENT. END SUMMARY.

2. THE FIRST PLENARY MEETING OF ROUND EIGHT OF THE US-USSR CHEMICAL WEAPONS NEGOTIATIONS WAS HELD FRIDAY AFTER-NOON, AUGUST 18, 1978. THE HEAD OF THE USDEL (AMB. A. S. FISHER) MADE A STATEMENT OUTLINING US VIEWS ON THE TASKS TO BE UNDERTAKEN IN ROUND EIGHT AND PRESENTING US PRO-CONFIDENTIAL

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POSALS IN TWO AREAS WHERE THE US POSITION HAD ONLY BEEN EXPRESSED IN GENERAL TERMS. SALIENT POINTS ARE GIVEN IN PARAS 3-5 BELOW.

3. FISHER SAID THAT ONE MAJOR TASK IS TO CONTINUE EFFORTS TO RESOLVE REMAINING ISSUES, PARTICULARLY THOSE IN THE AREA OF VERIFICATION. HE SAID THAT THE USDEL WAS LOOKING

FORWARD TO CLARIFICATION OF THE SOVIET POSITION ON DECLARATION AND DISPOSITION OF CHEMICAL WEAPONS PRODUCTION AND FILLING FACILITIES. FISHER ALSO INDICATED THAT THE US SIDE EXPECTED SOVIET RESPONSES TO A NUMBER OF PROPOSALS MADE BY THE US IN ROUND SEVEN.

4. FISHER SAID THAT THE SECOND MAJOR TASK FOR ROUND EIGHT IS TO RECORD AREAS OF AGREEMENT BY RESUMING THE WORK OF THE DRAFTING GROUP BEGUN IN ROUND SIX. THE US CONTINUED TO HOLD THAT THE JOINT INITIATIVE SHOULD BE PRESENTED IN THE FORM OF KEY ELEMENTS, BUT WAS PREPARED TO DRAFT THESE KEY ELEMENTS IN NEAR-TREATY LANGUAGE. IN THE US VIEW, WORK ON THE TWO MAJOR TASKS SHOULD PROCEED SIMULTANEOUSLY.

5. DRAWING ON GUIDANCE, FISHER OUTLINED THE US PROPOSAL THAT INFORMATION EXCHANGES BE INCLUDED IN THE CONVENTION TO BUILD CONFIDENCE THAT CHEMICAL PROTECTIVE MEASURES ARE SOLELY FOR DEFENSIVE PURPOSES. HE SAID THAT THE US PROPOSAL WOULD BE DISCUSSED IN DETAIL IN THE DRAFTING GROUP. FISHER ALSO EMPHASIZED THE IMPORTANCE OF BILATERAL CONSULTATIONS NOT ONLY UP TO THE TIME A MULTILATERAL CONVENTION COMES INTO FORCE, BUT AFTERWARDS AS WELL. HE SUGGESTED THAT THE CURRENT CHEMICAL WEAPONS WORKING GROUP SHOULD SERVE AS THE CHANNEL FOR SUCH CONSULTATIONS UNLESS IT BECOMES CLEAR THAT OTHER ARRANGEMENTS ARE NEEDED.

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6. SOVIET DEL HEAD (AMB. V. I. LIKHACHEV) MADE A VERY BRIEF, NON-SUBSTANTIVE PREPARED STATEMENT. HE SAID THAT THE SOVIET SIDE HAD USED THE WORKING RECESS FOR A THOROUGH ANALYSIS AND STUDY OF THE CONSIDERATIONS EXPRESSED BY THE US SIDE IN THE PREVIOUS ROUND. HE SAID THE ANALYSIS SHOWED THAT WHILE THE TWO SIDES HAD A COMMON VIEW ON A NUMBER OF POINTS, THERE WERE ALSO MANY POINTS TO BE RESOLVED. LIKHACHEV STATED THAT, "WE INTEND TO CONTINUE THE ACTIVE STUDY OF THE CONSIDERATIONS EXPRESSED BY THE US SIDE IN ORDER TO ANSWER AS SOON AS POSSIBLE THE QUESTIONS POSED BY OUR PARTNERS."

7. SOVIET DEL WAS SIMILAR TO THAT IN PAST ROUNDS. NEW DEL MEMBERS ARE: V. I. USTINOV (FOREIGN MINISTRY) AND V.M. CHEREDNITCHENKO (DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF THE KARPOV INSTITUTE OF PHYSICAL CHEMISTRY; DOCTOR OF SCIENCE). ROUND SEVEN DEL MEMBERS NOT PRESENT: L. A. NAOUMOV (FOREIGN MINISTRY), V. P. ABARENKOV (FOREIGN MINISTRY), K. M. DUMAEV (DIRECTOR OF THE SCIENTIFIC INSTITUTE OF ORGANIC DYES AND INTER-MEDIATE PRODUCTS).

8. FIRST DRAFTING GROUP MEETING IS SCHEDULED FOR TUESDAY

AFTERNOON, AUGUST 22. NEXT PLENARY MEETING HAS NOT BEEN SCHEDULED.

9. COMMENT: FROM THE OPENING STATEMENT AND INFORMAL CONVERSATIONS, IT IS CLEAR THAT THE SOVIET DELEGATION HAS NOT YET RECEIVED ITS INSTRUCTIONS. END COMMENT.

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 02 OF 02 GENEVA 12727

10. ACTION REQUESTED: PLEASE PROVIDE BIOGRAPHIC INFORMATION ON NEW DEL MEMBERS USTINOV AND CHEREDNITCHENKO, IF AVAILABLE. (USTINOV SAID HE SERVED A TOUR AT THE UN IN NEW YORK.)

VANDEN HEUVEL

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